

**From:** balbert@claritas.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/1/02 11:33am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Honorable Justices,

I have been a professional software developer for fifteen years and have been using tools developed by Microsoft and other vendors throughout my career. I believe, that although Microsoft has engaged in some questionable business practices, they have greatly benefited the software and computer industry as a whole. Prior to the Microsoft standards, software development was chaotic due to the many incompatible platforms that prevailed. Microsoft solved this very burdensome situation by introducing DOS and later Windows. Their development and promotion of COM was a major achievement in software development which allowed components developed in different programming languages and using both Microsoft and non-Microsoft compilers to communicate with one another.

I believe that Microsoft should adhere to your recent decision and not be further penalized for the good of everyone.

Sincerely,  
Bob Albert  
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